(b) if so, the details thereof and U.N.'s reaction thereto;

(c) whether the proposal agreement would contain provision for controlling virus attacks also and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) by when the protocol is likely to be put in place?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Minister during his visit to New York met the Secretary General of the United Nations (U.N.) where he raised the issue of drawing up a Cyber Crime Protocol. The Secretary General, U.N. promised to take up this issue.

(d) The matter is under consideration with the U.N.

Cable Theft

4520. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of cases of theft of underground cable of Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd. have grown steadily over the years;

(b) if so, the details thereof during the last three years alongwith the loss suffered by the MTNL; and

(c) the number of cases which have since been solved and the number of persons arrested during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) and (b) Sir, there had been fluctuations in the number of theft over the years. Details are annexed as Statement. (*See* below)

(c) In Delhi, the investigation by Police is going on. No intimation regarding any case being solved or arrest of any person has been received during the said period. In MTNL, Mumbai, one case has been solved and eight persons have been arrested.

Statement

The total number of cable thefts, subscribers affected and loss suffered by MTNL during the last years

DELHI

Year	No. of cables affected	No. of subscribers affected	Loss (in Rupees)
1999	196	68,886	33,56,415
2000	153	78,657	21,98,856
2001	208	81,204	18,36,268

MUMBAI

Year	No. of cables affected	No. of subscribers affected	Loss (in Rupees)
1999	43	7,260	16,34,940
2000	75	20,590	24,23,192
2001	32	15,980	4,98,634

Out of order units at Telephone Exchange in Almora Distt.

†4521. SHRI CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nine units out of existing ten are lying out of order for the last one year at Basore telephone exchange in Almora district of Uttaranchal and the lone functional units always repeats the message that "All lines of this route are busy" thus causing a lot of inconvenience to the consumers; and

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.